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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/939,656	08/28/2001	Arthur E. Uber III	P 265228 VI/98-013.FWC.C.	5530
21140	7590	11/17/2004	EXAMINER	
GREGORY L BRADLEY MEDRAD INC ONE MEDRAD DRIVE INDIANOLA, PA 15051			DESAUTO, MATTHEW F	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3763	

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/939,656	UBER, ARTHUR E.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Matthew F DeSanto	3763

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 August 2004.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 13-18 and 63-94 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 13-18 and 63-94 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: ____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 13-16, 64, 65, 66, 69, 72-75, 78, 79 and 92 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Roberts (USPN 4,754,786).

Roberts discloses an injection device with a first fluid source, a second fluid source, a fluid path, and a mixing element; as well as a metering device, a control unit, and a fluid assurance device. The “reusable portion” being the flow path from the mixing element down. The “disposable portion” being the needle connector (Ref. # 38, Figure 2).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 13-18, 63-94 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thompson et al. (USPN 4,710,166), and further in view of Wortich (USPN 4,750,643).

Thompson et al. discloses an injection device with a first fluid source and a second fluid source, as well as a mixing device (static and Y-connector), a pump or metering device, a control unit, valves and an electronic interface. (See Figures 1, and 11), but fails to disclose a fluid assurance device and multiple reusable and disposable portions.

Wortich discloses a sterile fluid dispensing system that comprises a fluid source, a fluid assurance element, multiple disposable portions, and a reusable flow path. (Figure 1 and entire reference)

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Thompson et al. with Wortich because Wortich teaches the economic benefit of using the setup disclosed by Wortich as well as the ability to infuse fluid into multiple patients.

5. Claims 13-18, 63-94 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Orkin et al. (USPN 4,925,444) in view of Wortich (USPN 4,750,643).

Orkin et al. discloses an injection device with a first fluid source and a second fluid source, as well as a mixing device, a pump or metering device, a control unit, valves and an electronic interface, a fluid assurance element and one reusable portion and a disposable flow path, (Figure 1 and entire reference), but fails to discloses multiple reusable and disposable portions.

Wortich discloses a sterile fluid dispensing system that comprises a fluid source, a fluid assurance element, multiple disposable portions, and a reusable flow path. (Figure 1 and entire reference)

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Orkin et al. because Wortich teaches the economic benefit of using the setup disclosed by Wortich as well as the ability to infuse fluid into multiple patients.

The examiner would also like to note that the multiplication of the infuse lines is a mere duplication of parts and has been indicated by the courts as taking only routine skill in the art, which would further support the 103 Rejections made above.

6. Claims 13-18, 64-70, 72-94 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kampfe et al. (USPN 5,450,847) and further in view of Wortich (USPN 4,750,643).

Kampfe et al. discloses an injection device with a first fluid source (12), a second fluid source (14), a fluid path (16, 22, 24), and a mixing device (20); as well as a metering device (26,28,30), a control unit (42), and a fluid assurance device (60,62) (Figure 1 and entire reference). As well as wherein one of the sources is a contrast source and wherein one of the sources is a diluents source (column 8, line 61 - column 9, line 65), but kampfe fails to disclose delivering the liquid to several patients.

Wortich discloses a sterile fluid dispensing system that comprises a fluid source, a fluid assurance element, multiple disposable portions, and a reusable flow path. (Figure 1 and entire reference)

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Kampfe because Wortich teaches the economic benefit of using the setup disclosed by Wortich as well as the ability to infuse fluid into multiple patients.

The examiner would also like to note that the multiplication of the infuse lines is a mere duplication of parts and has been indicated by the courts as taking only routine skill in the art, which would further support the 103 Rejections made above.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 13-18, 64-94 have been considered and are persuasive in view of the amendments with regards Pattillo. Therefore, the 102 rejection under Pattillo et al. (USPN 4,937,194) has been withdrawn.

8. With regards to the other rejections, Roberts, and the Thompson et al. in view of Wortich. The examiner disagrees with the interpretation of the claims. The language of reusable and disposable is functional and intended use language. The prior art of record is capable of being reusable as well as being disposable. There is no structural difference between the prior art and the claims in the application and therefore the examiner holds his rejections. The examiner would also like to point out MPEP section 2114, which states that an apparatus application cannot be given a patent on functional language alone, therefore there must be some structural difference, and there does not seem to be any difference or at least to this point the examiner has not seen any difference between the claimed language and the prior art of record.

9. With regards to Roberts, the examiner has changed the rejection wherein the needles are now being used to delivery fluid to a patient or at least has the capability to delivery fluid to the patient, and therefore reads on the functional limitation of the claim.

Conclusion

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew F DeSanto whose telephone number is 1-703-305-3292. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nick LUCCHESI can be reached on (703) 308-2698. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Matthew DeSanto
Art Unit 3763
November 10, 2004



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